dated November 27, 2001. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, a check in the amount of $110.00 is enclosed, which is the process fee for a one-month extension of time. If the check is inadvertently omitted, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner for Patents is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski Deposit Account No. 50-1212/10008931/SLH.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 9, 40 and 45, and amend the remaining claims as indicated below:

1. (Amended) A method for increasing the susceptibility of epithelial cells to viral infection comprising treating said cells with composition that comprises a tissue permeabilizing agent, whereby an increase in transepithelial permeability increases the susceptibility of said epithelial cells to viral infection.

38. (Amended) A composition suitable for aerosol application comprising a tissue permeabilizing agent, a cell proliferative factor and a packaged viral vector.

41. (Amended) The composition of claim 38, wherein said packaged viral vector comprises a non-viral gene.

42. (Amended) The composition of claim 38, wherein said packaged viral vector is a retroviral vector.

43. (Amended) A composition suitable for topical application comprising a tissue permeabilizing agent, a cell proliferative factor and a packaged viral vector.

46. (Amended) The composition of claim 43, wherein said packaged viral vector comprises a non-viral gene.

47. (Amended) The composition of claim 43, wherein said packaged viral vector is a retroviral vector.

48. (Amended) A method for redistributing viral receptors on epithelial cells of an epithelial tissue comprising increasing the transepithelial permeability of said epithelial tissue, whereby increased transepithelial permeability facilitates redistribution of said viral receptors on said epithelial cells.

50. (Amended) A method for expressing a polypeptide in cells of an epithelial tissue comprising:

(a) providing a packaged viral vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding said polypeptide;

(b) increasing the permeability of said epithelial tissue; and